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Application No: 10/004,089
Response to Office Action of 08/29/2007

Complete Listing of all Pending Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of configuring a user interface of computer-assisted equipment according to a service program, comprising the steps of:

said computer-assisted equipment transmitting a message to a remote computer;

said remote computer determining that said service program available on said remote computer is suitable for use with said computer-assisted equipment, said determining being based on said message;

said remote computer transmitting said service program to said computer-assisted equipment;

said remote computer conveying plural interface instructions that allows said computer-assisted equipment to cooperate with said remote computer in accordance with said service program, wherein said service program programs one or more selectors located on a surface of the computer-assisted equipment, wherein said selectors are configured to select and play Internet broadcasts and MP3 files stored on media resident within the remote computer and to control additional service programs running on the remote computer;

said computer-assisted equipment configuring plural user interfaces containing respective functions of said computer-assisted equipment and functions of the remote computer;

displaying the user interfaces on the computer assisted equipment; and

said computer-assisted equipment receiving content including audio, video and text while a remote control device receives interface instructions and controls the content, wherein after the content is received, the content is buffered in a memory device; and

said service program programming one or more of selectors to use the buffered content to perform freeze frame[[,]] and instant replay and for displaying pertinent text information by having the computer-assisted equipment receive content including audio, video and text while a remote control device receives interface instructions and controls the content on the display.

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2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said computer-assisted equipment provides entertainment.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said computer-assisted equipment is an audio reproduction system.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said computer-assisted equipment is a remote control device that controls functions of a video entertainment system, said video entertainment system receiving content from said remote computer.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining step includes said remote computer informing said computer-assisted equipment that at least one additional service program is available, said computer-assisted equipment selecting from among said service program and said at least one additional service program.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, additionally comprising said remote computer receiving a selection from said computer-assisted equipment, said selection indicating which of said service program and said at least one additional service program a user has selected.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said remote computer is a general-purpose computer.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said message is a service request that indicates that said computer-assisted equipment is ready to operate cooperatively with said remote computer.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising said remote computer transmitting content to said computer-assisted equipment under the control of said service program.

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10. (Currently amended) In a computer-assisted appliance, a method for interacting with a remote computer that executes a service program, comprising the steps of:

transmitting a service request from said computer-assisted appliance to said remote computer;

receiving interface instructions for said computer-assisted appliance that allows said computer-assisted appliance to cooperate with said remote computer in accordance with said service program, wherein said service program programs one or more selectors located on a surface of said computer-assisted appliance, wherein said selectors are configured to select and play Internet broadcasts and MP3 files stored on media resident within the remote computer and to control additional service programs running on the remote computer;

transmitting a user input to said remote computer in accordance with said interface instruction;

receiving content from said remote computer in response to said interface instruction, and

said computer-assisted appliance configuring plural user interfaces containing functions of said computer-assisted appliance and functions of the remote computer;

displaying the user interface on the computer assisted appliance; and

said computer-assisted appliance receiving content including audio, video and text while a remote control device receives interface instructions and controls the content, wherein after the content is received, the content is buffered in a memory device; and

said service program programming one or more of selectors to use the buffered content to perform freeze frame[[,]] and instant replay and for displaying pertinent text information by having the computer-assisted equipment receive content including audio, video and text while a remote control device receives interface instructions and controls the content on the display.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said service request includes an indication that said computer-assisted appliance is available and is ready to receive said service program.

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12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said remote computer is one of a portable and a desktop computing device.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein said appliance is an audio system that conveys music, and wherein said content includes a music video file.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said user input is a selection of a title of said music video file.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said service program includes instructions that enable said audio system to display a list of music video selections.

16. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said service program influences the function of a display located on said computer-assisted appliance.

17. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said service program influences a function of a remote control device used to control an entertainment device.

18-23. (canceled)

24. (Currently amended) In a remote computer, a method for cooperating with computer-assisted equipment, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for service from said computer-assisted equipment;

determining that a service program suitable for use with said computer-assisted equipment is available, said service program including plural interface instructions;

transmitting said interface instructions to said computer-assisted equipment, said interface instructions allowing said computer-assisted equipment to cooperate with said remote computer in accordance with said service program, wherein said service program programs one or more selectors located on a surface of the computer-assisted equipment, wherein said selectors are configured to select and play Internet broadcasts and MP3 files stored on media resident within the remote computer and to control additional service programs running on the remote computer;

cooperating with said computer-assisted appliance in accordance with said service program, wherein said service program configures plural user interfaces for said computer-assisted equipment containing functions of the computer-assisted equipment and the remote computer;

displaying the user interfaces on the computer assisted equipment; and

receiving content from said computer-assisted equipment including audio, video and text while a remote control device receives interface instructions and controls the content, wherein after the content is received, the content is buffered in a memory device; and

programming one or more of selectors to use the buffered content to perform freeze frame[[,]] and instant replay and for displaying pertinent text information by having the computer-assisted equipment receive content including audio, video and text while a remote control device receives interface instructions and controls the content on the display.

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25. (Original) The remote computer of claim 24, wherein said determining step includes receiving a selection as to which service program has been selected by a user of said computer-assisted equipment.

26. (Original) The remote computer of claim 24, wherein said remote computer is interfaced to a network and wherein said remote computer communicates with a network location available on said network.

27. (Original) The remote computer of claim 24, wherein said transmitting step is accomplished by way of transmitting said interface instruction using a wireless interface.

28-32. (canceled)

33. (Currently amended) One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform a method comprising the steps of:

receiving a service query from a computer-assisted appliance;

determining that a service program suitable for use with said computer-assisted appliance is available;

transmitting interface instructions to said computer-assisted appliance, wherein said interface instructions allowing said computer-assisted appliance to cooperate with said remote computer in accordance with said service program;

transmitting said service program, wherein said service program programs one or more selectors located on a surface of the computer-assisted appliances, wherein said selectors are configured to select and play Internet broadcasts and MP3 files stored on media resident within the remote computer and to control additional service programs running on the remote computer;

said service program configuring plural user interfaces for said computer-assisted appliance containing functions of the computer-assisted appliance and functions of the remote compute;

displaying the user interfaces on the computer-assisted appliance;

receiving information from said computer-assisted appliance, said information being conveyed from said interface and resulting from a user interacting with said interfaces; and

receiving content from said computer-assisted equipment including audio, video and text while a remote control device receives interface instructions and controls the content, wherein after the content is received, the content is buffered in a memory device; and

programming one or more of selectors to use the buffered content to perform freeze frame[[,]] and instant replay and for displaying pertinent text information by having the computer-assisted equipment receive content including audio, video and text while a remote control device receives interface instructions and controls the content on the display.

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34. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 33, wherein said receiving a service query step includes receiving an indicator that informs said computer of a function performed by said computer-assisted appliance.

35. (Previously presented) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 33, wherein said determining step includes said computer searching through a list of service programs.

36. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 33, wherein said method further comprises said computer-assisted appliance prompting said user for said input.